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WHAT issue, policy or idea in politics does Isaac P. Gray represent except get ting and dispensing office? HEREAFTER Feb. 12, the birthday of

Abraham Lincoln, will be a public holiday in the State of Illinois. It is one of the redeeming acts of the last Legislature. Ir it were possible to patent a political invention the Democratic members

of the Council would be entitled to a patent on the new process of vindication by expunging. GOVERNOR CAMPBELL would be happier if Hamilton county and its "bums

who can be bought for a glass of beer, could be gerrymandered out of the State of Ohio this year. THE Sentinel seems to be laboring under an impression that its depial of facts changes them. This is akin to the Dem-

aunihilates the truth. THE Rev. Sam Small has joined the People's party. Now, if ex-Governor St. John, of Kansas, would join the aggregation, it would be the completest

ocratic idea that expunging a record

political show on earth. Ir Governor Buchanan, of Tennessee who went to the scene of the miners strike, had not left as he did, the miners would doubtless have escorted him from the field of danger, as they did his troops

A KANSAS CITY paper asserts that the crops on many Kansas farms, this year, will sell for more than the land would have brought a year ago-all of which is more than unfortunate for the calami-

THE prime object of American statesmanship should be to make the United States as independent of the rest of the world as possible, and the rest of the world as dependent on the United States as possible.

It is an off day with Democratic papers in the South when they do not contain editorials entiled "The Democracy and the Alliance," in which all show that the Democratic party is the natural place for the Alliance.

THE New York Advertiser says that it is generally understood in Democratic circles that Governor Hill means to be a candidate for Governor again; but the Advertiser warns him that it will be the end of his political career.

WHEN Col. A. L. Conger, of Ohio says that the normal Republican majority in Ohio is from 20,000 to 30,000, he shows a lack of accurate information, It is very rare in late years that the Republicans have carried Ohio by 20,000.

THE Scranton, Pa., Free Press, which used to support Mr. Powderly, declares that he has been too ambitious in a political way, and announces a purpose to oppose his election as a member of the constitutional convention in that State.

WHEN Isaac Pusey Gray reads the Sentinel article declaring that Mr. Cleveand is the logical Democratic candidate for 1892 unless it is necessary to take a Western man, he will look in vain for the logical mention of his name as the Western candidate.

GEN. J. S. CLARKSON, who has recently returned from a trip abroad, says: "I have never been where the Democratic party was as popular as in England, and yet I noticed that many visiting American Democrats were hardly proud of such popularity for their

It is announced that Grover Cleveland will make half a dozen speeches in the Ohio campaign. This means that he finds he cannot rely on his personal inertia and intellectual ponderosity to secure the presidential nomination without showing his willingness to help his party.

THE next Democratic Legislature pass a resolution expunging from the records all proceedings relative to investigations of the Hospital for the Insane, the southern prison, etc. According to the new theory, this would prove that there never was anything wrong in the management. '

EX-CONGRESSMAN GUENTHER, consulgeneral of the United States to Mexico. who is now in this country on leave. says the trade between the United States and Mexico has reached very considerable proportions and is steadily increasing. The common report that England and Germany each export more products to Mexico than the United States is not true, for last year this country sent thither \$16,000,000 worth more than Great Britain, \$18,000,000 more than

and nearly \$5,000,000 more than these countries and all others combined. The total imports of Mexico during the year ending May 31, 1891, amounted to \$40,-024,894, of which \$22,669,420, or considerably more than one-half, were from the United States. Of these \$10,293,301 worth were admitted free of duty, while \$12,376,119 paid duties.

THE PROFITS OF MANUFACTURERS. No part of the free-trade assault upon the protective policy has been made more prominent than the assumption that it fosters monopolies which enable manufacturers to obtain great profits and enrich themselves at the expense of the people. The "millionaire manufacturers" and the "baron robbers of the cotton-mills and iron furnaces" are current free-trade phrases. The fact that certain men have large fortunes is at tributed, by free-traders, to the alleged monopoly afforded by the protective tariff to manufacturers, when it is a notorious fact that very few large fortunes have been achieved by manufacturers. The Chief of the Massachusetts Bureau of Statistics and Labor has just issued a report entitled "Net Profits in Manufacturing Industries," which shows the fallacy of this loud assumption of the free-traders. Massachusetts is a manufacturing State-all things considered, the most important manufacturing State in the Union. That its manufactures are growing rapidly is evidence that they are prosperous and presumably as profitable as in any section of the country. The data for the report has been obtained from 10,013 establishments devoted to sixty-four different manufacturing industries and embracing 69.21 per cent. of the total value of the products manufactured in that State. Reports are required to be made by corporations, and they embrace very item of expenditure for plant, labor, material and the value of the goods sold, taken from their books. Consequently the result is the net profits. In the report of the chief is given industry after industry, showing the profits and losses, the receipts and expenditures. It may be interesting to note a few of them. Of the \$34,313,421 invested in the boot and shoe industry of Massachusetts, returns were made by establishments having \$26,561,156 of invested capital. The excess of the selling price above the cost of production in 1890 was 10.94 per cent. From this must be taken the cost of distributing the goods, interest on capital borrowed and credit at 5 per cent., and the annual depreciation of the machinery, which, when done, leaves 4.35 per cent. as the net profits of the shoe industry. In the carpet industry the net profit was 0.27 per cent; on ready-made clothing, 14.05 per cent.; on cotton manufactures the net loss on the capital invested was 5.77 per cent.; on machines and machinery the net profit was 6.76 per cent, on capital invested; on woolen manufactures, net profit, 5.20 per cent. The recapitulation of the 10,013 establishments, embracing sixty-four different industries, shows that the excess of the aggregate selling price of their

lept to 4.83 per cent. on the amount of capital invested. These statistics, obtained from accurate data and made by men of large experience, with no motive but to present the truth, ought to crush the life out of the much-used lie of the millionaire profits of the manufacturer; but they will not. The free-trade lie runs on

product above the cost of production

was 12.95 per cent.; that when the inter-

est in cash and credit capital at 5 per

cent. is paid, and the proper allowance

is made for depreciation in machinery

duced to 3.90 per cent., which is equiva-

THE TENNESSEE MINERS' STRIKE.

The situation in East Tennessee is peculiar and interesting. The strike of the coal-miners is not for higher wages nor against any existing grievance, but against the anticipated evils apprehended from the introduction of convict labor in the mines. The law of Tennessee provides for the leasing or hiring out of convict labor to the highest bidder, to be used in labor outside of the prison. It is the proposed introduction of this labor in the coal mines that has brought on the present formidable strike. The miners seem to be unanimous in the determination that the convicts shall not be permitted to work, and threaten to destroy the machinery and the mines themselves before they

Undoubtedly, so far as the merits of the question are involved, the miners are right. We speak of the merits of the question without reference to the legal aspects. The convictlabor law is a thoroughly bad one, wrong in principle, mischievons in practice, and altogether demoralizing in tendency. It should never have been passed, and ought to be repealed. It is the work of a Democratic Legislature, probably intended to create a profitable monopoly for a Democratic ring of convict-labor lessees. It is an outrage for the State to allow its convicts to be placed in the mines to compete with free labor, and the public cannot but sympathize with the miners in their protest against it. They would be false to their

manhood if they did not protest. On the other hand, there is the law. Wrong and odious as it is, it is nevertheless the law. The convicts are not responsible for it, neither are the lessees. The Legislature which made the law. and the people who elected them, are responsible. The law has the same sanction and authority asany other, and it is as much the duty of the authorities to enforce it as if it were the most righteous and popular law in the State. Strictly speaking, the miners have no right to resist its enforcement, and in doing so they place themselves in the wrong. The situation is an embarrass-

The course of the Governor seems to have been somewhat vacillating. Starting out with the theory that it was his the year which ended with June 30 is duty to enforce the law and protect the lessees and convicts in carrying out | year, the United States consumed during their contract, he responded to the appeal of the sheriff by sending a small | more of silver than it produced. In | were before the passage of the McKin-France, \$20,000,000 more than Germany, force of militia to the scene of trouble. other words, we used up almost 21 per ley law. Such individual ignorance to Animals, Old Boston School-boys' Asso- incomes increase. That process leads to her many virtues and accomplishments.

captured and sent back. Then the Governor called out a much larger force, which rendezvoused on Tuesday at Knoxville. By this time the Governor seems to have become alarmed at the formidableness of the miners' movement, and began to look about for a pretext for retreat. His Atalleged fact that the sheriff of Anderson county, where the strike occurs, had abandoned his post, and therefore the Governor could take no further steps to enforce the law. The sheriff denies this, and says he is ready to assume all the responsibility that belongs to his office, and expects the Governor to do the same. Even if it were true that the sheriff had abandoned his post, that would not excuse the Governor from the responsibility of enforcing the law. Ordinarily, of course, the civil power is paramount, and the military can only be used when the civil authorities are unable to preserve the peace or enforce the law. The usual mode is for the local authorities to appeal to the Governor, declaring themselves powerless to enforce the law and asking for the intervention the State. But it is absurd to say if the local authorities abandon their posts and leave the field to a mob that the Governor is estopped from interfering. Such a condition, instead of relieving him from responsibility, would only make more imperative his duty of enforcing the law. It can hardly be possible that the Governor of Tennessee really believed that the abandonment of his post by the sheriff made it impossible for the Governor to use any means at his command necessary to preserve the peace and enforce the law. It is more probable that he used this pretext to justify him in delay while looking for a way to avoid a serious collision with

Latest accounts state that after several conferences at Knoxville the Governor had finally ordered the troops to the scene of the strike, and that bloodshed was expected. It is to be hoped collision may be avoided, although matters certainly seem to be approaching crisis. From this distance it would seem that the best thing to do is to compromise matters until such time as the convict-labor law can be repealed. The law itself is deservedly odious, and it is evident that any attempt to enforce it will result in serious loss of life and property. If it were a good or neces sary law this consideration would not be entitled to much weight, but under the circumstances it is.

THE FIELD FOR RECIPROCITY. Those who yet think it good politics to decry the reciprocity policy of the administration with the southern countries are very emphatic in their declarations that the trade of all South and Central America and the islands adjacent thereto is of little consequence. They have made so many people believe this assertion that the statement that the population of these countries is nearly five-sixths as large as that of the United States and their aggregate foreign commerce is proportionately as large compared with that of this country, will surprise many readers. Yet such is the case, as the following statistics prove: and bad debts, the net profits are re-

Population.	Total Foreign Trade
Mexico11,388,664	\$83,726,73
Central America 3,131,728	35,942,11
Colombia 3,878,600	21,848,34
Venezuela 2,234,385	39,210,21
Brazil	260,695,05
Argentine 4,046,654	280,690,00
Chili 2,665,926	119,258,33
Uruguay 651,112	57,485,70
Guiana 364,118	23,141,49
Peru 2,621,844	14,024,45
Paraguay 329,645	5,878,86
Bolivia 1,192,162	14,258,33
Eeuador 1,004,651	15,539,04
Spanish West Indies 2,306,393	138,875,34
Hayti 600,000	13,624,76
Santo Domingo 610,000	4.513,86
	55,956,69
Other West Indies 357,573 79,717	16,007,58

52,778,748 \$1,200,676,453 A policy which has for its purpose the securing and giving of special trade advantages with nearly 53,000,000 of peoole who sell to and buy of other countries an aggregate of over \$1,200,000,000 worth of merchandise in a year is not one to be sneered at and made the object of political ridicule. At the present time the United States takes only about \$200,000,000 a year of the southern countries, and sends back in part payment only \$91,000,000 of its merchandise in exchange. That is, we now have but one-fourth of the trade of the countries nearest us and pay them over \$100,-000,000 in gold each year, which we can very largely pay in the products of this country if proper efforts are made to extend our trade. The administration is making this effort and is using the power conferred by Congress to encourage steamship lines to the southern countries, to the end that a reciprocal trade may be established. Thanks to it the work is too far advanced and com mends itself too strongly to the practical intelligence of the country to be hindered by sneers and falsehoods.

PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION OF SILVE

The census bulletin devoted to the statistics of the precious metals during the census year shows that the product of gold was valued at \$32,886,744, and that of silver at \$52,000,000, or \$66,396, 988 in coinage value, there having been 51,359,451 ounces. The gold production of the United States is 28, and the silver product is 41 per cent. of the entire production of the world during the same year. For the calendar year 1889 it is estimated that \$8,767,000 worth of silver was used in the industrial arts. The natural increase would warrant the estimate of 9,000,000 ounces as the amount of silver used the past year for the industrial arts. Add to this the purchases by the government under the act of the last Congress, namely, 54,000,000 ounces, and the consumption of silver in the United States during the past year was 63,000,000 ounces, against a total production of 51,389,451 ounces. The somewhat surprising inference is that unless the output of the mines during much larger than that of the census the last fiscal year 11,600,000 ounces | hold goods are higher now than they

These were surrounded by the miners, | cent. more silver than we produced. If there has been no variation in the output of the mines to change these figures, the United States will soon be importing nearly 1,000,000 ounces of silver a month to supply the demands of consumption. As these 11,600,000 ounces are worth, round numbers, as many dollars, we must be sending more than one-third of the output of our gold mines abroad to purchase foreign silver. But this change during the year from being a silver-exporting country to the extent of at least twenty million ounces to an importing one to more than half that figure seems not to have very materially affected the price of silver bullion, showing that the quantity

> of such bullion in Europe is very large. There are in the country a considerable number of people who advocate the free coinage of American silver only. Unless it is their purpose to give the owners of silver mines and silver bullion \$1 for 80 cents' worth of silver bullion, there must appear to them no cause for such a law, since, under existing laws, we are consuming 21 per cent. more of silver bullion than we take out of the earth.

> THE boys about the Sentinel office ught not to dabble in politics when the editor is away. Some one in his absence ventured to make the paper say that Grover Cleveland was the logical and inevitable candidate of the Democratic party for 1892, whereupon the editor says the statement does not state the position of the paper accurately, and

> If the tariff shall be the commanding issue of the next campaign, as seems probable now, Grover Cleveland will certainly be a ogical candidate; possibly the logical canlidate. But, on the other hand, circumstances may render it advisable to nominate Western candidate. Certainly it would be clearly advisable to do so if it were not for the peculiar relation Mr. Cleveland occupies to the tariff question. It may be hought best to come West for a candidate notwithstanding this. In such event an able and well-equipped Indiaman will be

trongly supported. If Hendricks or McDonald were alive t would not be out of place for Democratic papers to speak of "an able and well-equipped Indianian" in connection with the presidential candidacy, but un der existing circumstances it is the height of absurdity. Until within a short time the Sentinel has been an enthusiastic supporter of Cleveland as the only available and really inevitable candidate. The "mistake" made in the absence of the editor was simply a following of the old lead, and the correction merely shows a change of front. The transference of the Sentinel's support from Cleveland to Gray shows that Isaac has a pretty firm grip on the local machine. Meanwhile, he should request the editor not to be gone over night again.

THE Governor of Minnesota deserves the thanks of the country for having prevented the prize-fight which was to have taken place in St. Paul last night. In spite of the attempts to surround this affair with the respectable atmosphere of an "athletic club contest" the fact remains that it was to be simply a brutal prize-fight with all which that implies. If prize-fighting is to be made a popular pastime in this country, as a large and increasing number of persons seem determined it shall, let the laws against it be repealed and let us admit frankly that we are retrograding towards barbarism. But while the laws against it exist they should be enforced. If prizefighting cannot be wholly prevented it can, at least, be made disreputable and its participants and patrons made to feel that they are outside the pale of decency.

SPEAKING of the rooster which the Democrats of Ohio, as well as of Indiana, have selected as the emblem to distinguish the Democratic ballot, the rather Democratic New York Advertiser

Did anybody ever hear of a rooster that favored civil-service reform, or reform of any kind? As a matter of fact, the rooster is not a Democrat in any sense. He is a vain, proud, swell-head autocrat of the most pronounced variety. He is the meanest aristocrat of the bird species. He has one good quality—he is a fighter, but he is not a magnanimous fighter. He is too much disposed to crow over his triumpha. Moreover, the original mugwump was a shanghai rooster.

On the contrary, the Advertiser's definition of a rooster fits the average Democrat like a tailor suit made from a small pattern.

THE Sentinel is not quite accurate when it declares that the McKinley law will help the Standard Oil Company, since, as the largest consumer of tinplates, it would be injured if the price of these goods were enhanced by the present law. But the Mills bill put tinplates on the free list, and it is intimated that the political end of the Standard Oil Company was influential in securing it.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE BLOD-GETT, of Chicago, has just entered his seventy-first year. This, in connection with the fact that he has served on the federal bench twenty years, makes him eligible to retirement on full pay for life. He has no intention, however, of retiring at present, being in good health, and disposed to continue in his work until he feels the necessity of quitting.

ACCORDING to latest advices, the Republican leaders in Ohio, including Messrs. Sherman, Foraker, Foster and McKinley, have come to a friendly understanding that the senatorial question shall be kept in the background until after the election, and that the united efforts of all shall be directed first to carrying the State in November. This is a very wise conclusion.

THE job undertaken by Governor Hogg of ferreting out and bringing to justice all the murderers of Texas who have escaped punishment during the past twenty-five years is stupendous, but doubtless he regards it as a trifling work compared with the task of reforming Texans so that the crime ratio of the next twenty-five years will be les-

sened. ONE of those editorial writers who ignore facts and deal with opinions writes a long editorial for the New York Herald, based upon the assumption that the prices of the general line of house-

seems impossible, but when such a wellknown and glaring misstatement appears in a paper, it looks very much like an attempt to deceive its readers.

Sr. Louis has 409 miles of streets, every foot of which is sprinkled every day, the granite and asphalt pavements four times a day, and the macadamized or dirt streets three times a day. The superintendent of street sprinkling gets a salary of \$2,500, while his sixteen assistants receive \$1,000 each, and \$20 per month extra for a horse and buggy. Streets are sprinkled for eight and a half months, and the cost to the property-holders is five cents per front foot each season, or \$1.25 for a twenty-five foot lot. The water is furnished to the sprinklers free.

DEMOCRATIC newspaper writers, who have been spending the dull season in inventing tales concerning Mr. Blaine's health, are now explaining the variegated character of their lies by charging the Secretary's family with prevarication and concealment of truth. It is true Democratic policy to lay the blame on the other fellow, even when caught with red hands themselves.

BUBBLES IN THE AIR.

Where the Trouble Lay. "What! You do not even speak? Why, last spring you seemed to be the typical 'two souls with but a single thought." "Yes, that was the trouble. We both wanted to marry rich."

A Wasted Sarcasm. "I thort you was a journalist from what your mother said," remarked Uncle Haicede to the city nephew who was showing him around, "and here I find you just a common reporter." "But I am a journalist," responded the young

man, "and with a big jay, too." But the old man never saw the point. A Liberal Translation.

Weary Watkins-Do you understand Dutch, Hungry Higgins-Not much. Why? Weary Watkins-This here newspaper's got something in it about "gens-darme."

what that means Hungry Higgins-That ain't Dutch; it's French. Means "gents of the army." Unconsidered Trifles.

The Kansas people have named the political wailers of woe "calamityites," or "calams" for short. Don't be a calam.

The man who wants the earth need not expect to get it without advertising.

FEWER and fewer are the undertakings attempted by proud man that emulative woman, in these days of equal rights, does not also undertake with more or less success. The young man of the period shoots his sweetheart when she declines to marry him, and therefore Miss Lee, of Puntagorda, Fla., saw no reason why she should not enjoy the privilege of shooting the object of her affections because he had the bad taste to engage himself to another girl. Although it is a poor rule it works equally well both ways, as shown by the fact that Miss Lee brought down her game.

THE Milwaukee Sentinel devotes an article to an attempt to prove that the American citizen has no prejudice whatever against the royal blood of the effete monarchies when its representatives come to this country to earn their bread, and, to prove its assertion, says that it pays the Austrian nobleman who is a compositor in its office as much as any other compositor, and the other printers use him just as well.

To the Editor of the Indianapolis Journal: Please give an explanation of the present po litical troubles in Chili.

The President was chosen as the representative of the opposition to the wealthy and heretofore controlling element of the nation. He undertook to enforce certain measures which he claimed were for the benefit of the people, but which were bitterly opposed by the Congress, a majority of which was controlled by the element hostile to the President. Their quarrels culminated in a Congressional party, which made war upon the President. Thereupon he had a Congress elected and proceeded to make war upon his opponents. Each side gave a version of the affair favorable to itself. The President's party charge the war is a movement of the aristocratic classes against the people, while the insurgents declare they are fighting to save popular government and to keep the President from making himself dictator. A new President has been elected recently, and the hope is expressed that terms of peace may be arranged when a change has been made

ABOUT PEOPLE AND THINGS.

ROBERT BONNER has never raced a horse for money or won a dollar on a track in his life, yet there bas not been a time in twentyfive years when he has not owned the best trotting stock in America.

THE dowager Countess of Shrewsbury is one of the most prominent philanthropists in England. She has spent most of her time and money in improving the condition of the poor on her estate and has established several lodging-houses and "convalescent homes" for the indigent and sick. Young Mrs. OSCAR WILDE is said to be a striking contrast with her husband. She is very quiet, while he is rather loud; she is inclined to be commonplace, while he is brilliant in conversation. He has laid aside his æsthetic and eccentric dress since he became stout, and is now clothed like the ordinary nineteenth century English-

THE house in which Paganini died at Nice is now designated by a marble tablet bearing an inscription which says, somewhat effusively, that at evening on May 27, 1840. the spirit of the great violinist returned to be absorbed in the sources of eternal harmony. "The powerful bow that drew forth magic sounds lies inert, but its supreme aweetness still survives in the scented

DR. ERNEST LA PLACE, of the Philadelphia Medico-Chirurgical College, says that within a very short time the world will hear again from Dr. Koch. He will make important scientific revelations that will prove he is on the right road toward a cure for consumption. The importance of this statement is due to the fact that Dr. La Place keeps himself fully informed of all that is done in the studies and laboratories of European scientists. MADEMBA, King of Segon, Africa, who

was elevated to his present position by Colonel Archinard, was formerly in the French telegraph service in Africa. Mademba is a native of the country, but was formerly controller of telegraphs at Senegal. Before accepting his regal state he made it a condition that his name should continue to be inscribed on the list of telegraph servitors, and that his situation of ng should be considered as subservient to that of his original employment.

WILLIAM H. BALDWIN, who has been president of the Boston Young Men's Christian Union for twenty-three years, was formerly a dry-goods werchant, but gave up trade in 1868, and has since devoted himself to practical charities. During the war be was a member of a local relief committee, and for several years he served on the Boston school board. He is now actively connected with the Children's Mission to the Children of the Destitute, the Massachu-

ciation, Franklin Savings Bank, Unitarian Church Temperance Society, and many

other kindred organizations "I AM very sorry," Mr. Cleveland tells a correspondent at Buzzard's Bay, "that story crept into the New York papers about Mr. Booth's ill health. For three weeks he has been down here with Mr. Joseph Jefferon, and the place agrees with him. He is ontented and enjoys the out-of-door life here. I see him almost every day when I am on shore, as Mrs. Cleveland and I frequently drive over to the Jeffersons across the bay. He is in good health, and it's too bad to worry him with such stories.

"Room for the leper, room!" Soran N. P. Willis's poem in the old reading books. This will be the watchword in New York if the case of the leprous Chinese laundryman discovered there continues to be discussed in the press. In Mott street, Chinese headquarters, it is wondered at that the city authorities permit the afflicted Hop Sing to follow his vocation and walk abroad, since in China he would have been isolated long ago. It seems yet to be scientifically undetermined whether leprosy is contagious or not in these latitudes.

"I HAVE a weight upon my mind," I overheard him say.
"That's good," said she, "twill keep the win From blowing it away.

"WHEN Brother Jones was dving." Said the parson, "yesterday. It grieved my soul to hear him

Say he couldn't find the way. "No wonder," said the editor, With wise and winking eyes; "When poor old Jones lost anything

He wouldn't advertise! -Atlanta Constitution.

THE TENNESSEE REBELLION.

WHEN the authority and dignity of the State shall have been thoroughly re established it will be time enough to discuss the grievances of the strikers. It cannot be done while with force and arms they defy the authority of the State. - Chicago Times

THE Knoxville miners undoubtedly, in their opposition to the present system, are largely sustained by public sentiment; but in their open hostility to the laws and authority of the State, they will certainly find themselves at variance with all patriotic citizenship.-Philadelphia Telegraph. THE law is infamous. The Governor may

uphold it against the people with the bayonet, but the attempt is likely to be a costly temporary. The convict contract system in Tennessee is doomed, and the public man who aligns himself with it is doome with it.-St. Louis Republic. THE Governor of Tennessee, who is i

position of great responsibility, was th choice of the Alliance and labor organizations for the office. But he can conced nothing to armed rebellion against the authority of the State no matter if it is backed up by labor organizations. He is at the parting of the ways.-Pittsburg Post. THE State, it is said, has been disgraced

by the convict lease system. It has now been humiliated, and no course is left open but to take possession of the mines and to enforce the law. Then comes the question of an extra session of the Legislature for the repeal of the law. The people are evidently against it, and the system has been sufficiently tried in the South to demonstrate its weak point.-Chicago Inter

THE legitimacy of the resort to mob law, the practice of lynching and the theory that might makes right, have had especial vogue in the South for many years. If it s permissible to lynch one class of obnoxious people, and to subject another to mid night whippings, in violation to law, is no the lesson clearly taught to the miners that they have a right to resist in arms the introduction of convict labor among them? -Pittsburg Dispatch.

THE miners can rest satisfied that what they have done so far will serve to secure the repeal of the objectionable laws at the earliest possible moment, provided they go no farther. If they persist, however, warring against law and proceed to bloodshed and destruction of property they wil lose all their advantage. There will be lit-tle disposition to modify laws to please those who have shown themselves utterly lawless.-Louisville Commercial.

GRAY'S BOOM.

It is rumored that "your Uncle" Isaac Pusey Gray has felt much encouraged since the mamme h wind-bag was struck by lightning at Chicago a few days ago .-Logansport Journal.

GOVERNOR GRAY, of Indiana, is looking toward the Democratic presidential non nation next year rather more earnestly than the Democrats are looking toward him.—Baltımore American.

GOVERNOR GRAY, of Indiana, feels an i resistible impulse to respond to what h thinks is a Democratic call to accept presidential nomination. There is too much feeling in that man.-Wheeling In-Ex-Governor Gray, of Indiana, has de

clared himself not a candidate for the viceresidency. It may be that he is looking or bigger game, but he can consider himself in luck if he constitutes the tail of the ticket.-Concord (N. H.) Patriot. GOVERNOR GRAY, of Indiana, intimates

that he is not a candidate for the vice-pres idency. The first place on the Democratic ticket is good enough for him, and if he can't have that he'll have none. All right. None it is .- Pittsburg Chronicle.

EX-GOVERNOR GRAY, of Indiana, save that he is not a candidate for the second place on the Democratic national ticket. If he means by this he is seeking the first place, then somebody ought totell him that he is making a fool of himself .- St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

ABOUT AN INCOME TAX.

Editor Dana Castigates the Ohio Democratic Platform-Makers. Did the Democrats of Ohio understand

what they were doing when they put side by side in their party platform for the imortant campaign now opening these two We are opposed to all class legislation.
 We favor a graded income tax.

and a bounty on perjury.

An income tax of any kind is class leg ation of the worst sort. It divides the community into two classes, the honest and the dishonest, and it taxes the honest for th benefit of the dishouest. This odious method of raising revenue has never been described better than as a tariff on integrity

Only once in the history of this country

has there been an attempt to levy an income tax. Then the tax was imposed as a war measure. Never again, except in the direst necessity or the wildest folly, will the experiment be repeated. The tax survived until 1872. In 1870, the census year, the population of the United States was 38,558,-371. The income tax that year was paid by 276,661 persons, or one tax-payer to 139 of population. The number of male citizens of twenty-one and upward was 8,425,941 in that year. The income tax was paid by one adult male in every thirty. Supposing. even, that it was equitably assessed and fairly collected, this experience shows to what degree the income-tax law is class

But such a tax never was assessed and collected, and never can be, without the rossest injustice and the most outrageous sparity of burdens. The attempt to collect a tax on personal property is simplicity teelf in comparison. To ascertain in th crudest way the approximate incomes of the class taxed under class legislation of this kind, it becomes necessary to establish a system of inquisition and espionage repugnant to American ideas and abhorrent to the free citizen. The eyes of the government spy into every man's private accountbooks: the spies of the government oversee every housewife's expenditures. The honest American spirit will tolerate the hateful inquisition only as a sacrifice for the sake of the nation's existence. Dishonesty the ncome tax will never reach. Fraud finds a thousand easy ways to evade it. In theory it is unphilosophical and undemocratic:

practice it is impossible. The Ohio Democratic platferm calls not merely for an income tax but for a graded or unequal income tax. We suppose the

straight to actual confiscation. If the tax, for example, on \$500 incomes is \$5, 1 per cent., and on \$1,000 incomes \$15, or 112 per cent., and so on, the tax on a \$2,000,000 income becomes \$2,650,000. Whatever adjustment may be made between rate of tax and size of income taxed, the graduated tax sooner or later reaches a point where it swallows up the entire income. This is confiscation. Progressive steps toward this are progressive steps toward confiscation. They are steps along the direct road to communism. The cumulative income tax, if it could be honestly collected, would be the final outrage in the way of class legislation. It would divide the free and equal citizens of the United States into various classes; one class paying nothing. another class paying 5 per cent. another paying 10 per cent., another paying into the treasury haif of their incomes, and so on up to the class which suffers an absolute confiscation of the earnings of its skill, intelligence, energy and accumulated sav-

But does any Democratic delegate who. in the Ohio convention, voted for the graded income-tax plank believe that a graded income tax could be so imposed and collected as to distribute equitably among the citizens of this country the burdens of government? If he does he ought to be ashamed of his ignorance. If he does not believe it, but voted for the resolution merely as cheap toll bait for the cranks of the Farmers' Alliance and other cranks with hazy notions of the practicable and the impracticable, he ought to be ashamed of his duplicity and disloyalty to Democratic principles.

IN DEATH VALLEY.

Prof C. H. Merriam Relates His Experiences While Exploring the Strange Region.

San Francisco Chronicle. Dr. C. Hart Merriam, scientist and chief of a government biological survey which has been working for months in Death valley. is in the city. Dr. Merriam has studied closely the strange region of which so much has been said, and he is the first in the city

qualified to speak of the valley. He has camped within the glare of its salt beds. has felt its intolerable heat, and viewed its splendid desolation, and has faced the scorching blasts of wind and red-hot sand that rage between the towering black mountains which wall the silent chasm. He has been in the midst of its death-dealelements, has tasted of its poisone wells and has forced his way over its treacherous sands, and over ground that crumbled beneath the weight of man or horse. He told the story of his adventures to a Chronicle reporter last night.
"The valley and its lowering black walls of barren rock," he said. "are weird and strangely sublime in their desolation. For

miles and miles the curious mountains may be seen outlined against the clear sky From the top of Telescope Peak, the high est of the Panamint or western range which shuts the valley in, one may look down a dizzy black precipies twelve thou-sand feet to the level of the valley as dazzling white as snow. Stretching from the mountain's foot are the glistening fields of salt. Here and there are running streams of salt and mineral waters. To drink of them is to die. The view closes in the gloomy cliffs of the Funeral mountains, which form an impenetrable barrier at the east of the canyon. The scene is one of violent contrasts, of glaring whites and

"The valley is the most barren and the lowest of a series in eastern California and southwestern Nevada. At a rough estimate, it is about 150 feet below the level of the sea. It runs generally north and south, although its worst region turns to the northwest. This portion has been named Mesquite valley. It is a region far worse than Death valley proper. The valley may be compared to the Grand canyon of the Colorado. It is rather an immense chasm than a valley. It is about 140 miles long, and at its broadest part is only eighteen miles wide. In some parts it is no more than fifteen miles in width. In this frightful place, baked and blistered by intolerable heat, holding within itself innumerable elements of death, revealing strange aspects of natural desolation, our party has been at work for months.

"On either side of the valley, stretching almost its entire length, is a range of mountains, absolutely barren of animal and vegetable life. The western range is the Panamint, averaging in height about nine thousand feet. The eastern range is the Funeral, a suggestive and not unfit name. The Funeral mountains rise fully seven housand feet above the level of the sea. These mountains are black, with the exception of curious patches of red rock. Away to the north is Mount Magruder. Be youd in the distance rise the heights of the Sierras. Almost at the southern limit of the valley is Mount Ivanwatch. Behind it

s the 'Devil's Playground,' a region of absolute barrenness "Down the valley a hot, suffocating wind blows with terrific velocity. In its course through the stricken region it gathers a black cloud of hot, shifting sand that has blinded many an unwary horse and rider. Under the glistening beds of crystallized salt in places are running streams of salt

water. Beneath there is still another bed of sait. "In other parts of the valley are wastes of hot sand drawn in some places into high nounds by the whirling blasts that sweep down the canyon. There, too, is the most curious earth I have seen—self-rising earth it has been called. As far as the eye can see it appears in curving outline, up and down, as if puffed by a natural yeast. The unfortunate animal that steps upon the little hills will crash through, for they are

not much more than fragile crusts. "Still stranger is that section of the valley which for want of a better name is called salt earth. Innumerable puppacles tapering to points as fine as needles and over a foot long rise in close array from the ground. They are as hard as stone and as dangerous as sharpened steel. Beneath and hidden by them are pitfalls, a tumble into which means a broken leg or arm. Then, too, are the rich fields of borax, which have lured many a man to death. "Dreadful as is Death valley, its north western arm, Mesquite valley, is worse. All of the water upon its surface is poison. The

this valley that the immigrants lost their lives. Water may be obtained only by digging deep wells, and then it is none too "Our party, the biological survey of the United States government, has been in the valley for months. It left there only a few days ago, having finished its investigation. The general purpose of the Department of Agriculture, under which we work, is to collect facts relating to the distribution of species with variations of temperature and humidity throughout the United States, and particularly in the western part. The results obtained will be of the utmost value to agriculture, for they will save millions

wind has thrown the sand into immense

mounds, one of which is three miles long

and three hundred feet high. It was in

of dollars spent in experiment by farmers who wish to test the capacity and character of their land. "We have found that in certain zones certain flora and fauna flourish. Each zone has its peculiar species which will not flourish in others. These zones are both

horizontal and vertical. "The party chose the desolate region of Death valley for its labors, for from it, and not far distant, can be traced the seven zones we have established. The valley, notwithstanding its barren elements, has many phases of life. It has thirty or forty species of animals and fully as many o vegetable growth. Nothing, of course, will live on the salt or borax bottoms, but on the edges of these districts various hardy plants thrive. In the sand wastes are gophers, mice, rats, bats and many other animals, and not a few reptiles.

"Many theories have been advanced to account for the formation of Death valley. think it quite probable that it was once

the sink of the Mojave river. "Our trip has been an interesting one One of my rides in tracing the course of the sub-Sonoran zone, a region similar to the Mexican state of Senora, was 1,700 miles in length. Those who were in the party and members of it were Vernon Bailey, a naturalist, botanist, and, in my opinion, the best trapper in the world; Theodore Palmer, chief assistant; Dr. A. K. Fisher, F. V. Coville and E. W. Nelson. The only part of the region yet to be investigated is

the high Sierras.' Cleveland's Coming Heir.

Philadelphia Inquirer. The announcement that the ex-President expects an heir about September is greeted with interest everywhere. Mrs. Cleveland has made a charming wife and hostess of Ohio platform means a tax graded up-that | the White House, and millions will rejoice